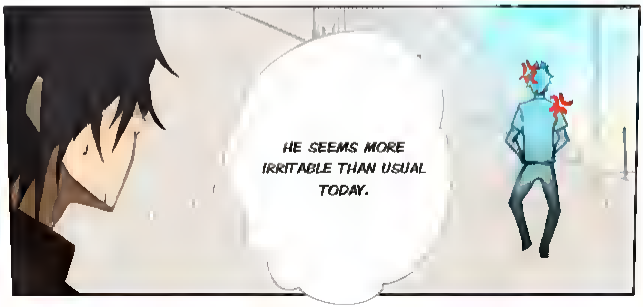
catharsis

By Ahniki

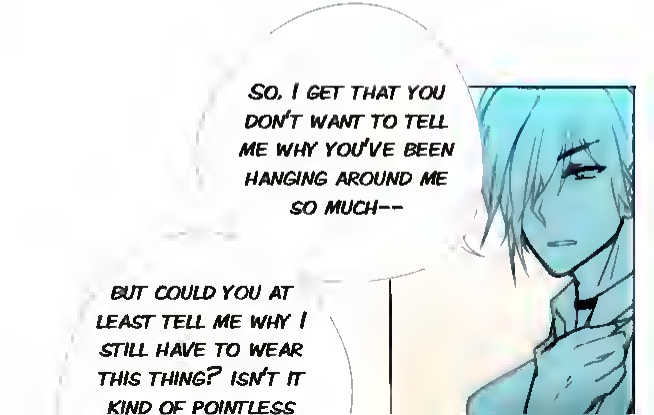

HE SEEMS MORE IRRITABLE THAN USUAL TODAY.

IT'S GETTING HOT WALKING TO SCHOOL IN FULL UNIFORM.
I WANT TO AT LEAST UNBUTTON MY UNIFORM. BUT THEN THIS

CHOKER WOULD SHOW. I DON'T WANT ANY WEIRD RUMORS GOING AROUND IF IT SHOWED... I NEED TO HOLD OUT UNTIL THE END OF THE DAY.

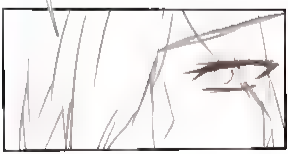
I DON'T GET WHY I STILL HAVE TO WEAR THIS EVEN THOUGH. I'VE BEEN OUT OF COMMISSION THIS ENTIRE TIME.

HEY PARIS!


SO. I GET THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME WHY YOU'VE BEEN HANGING AROUND ME SO MUCH--
BUT COULD YOU AT LEAST TELL ME WHY I STILL HAVE TO WEAR THIS THING? ISN'T IT KIND OF POINTLESS

SINCE YOU'LL JUST BE FOLLOWING ME AROUND ANYWAY?

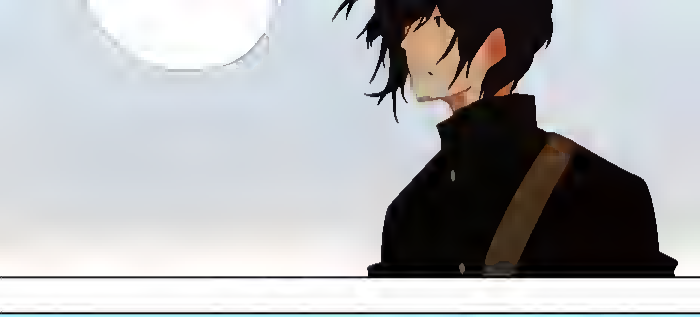
HELLO?



HEY...
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME, I'M PULLING THIS THING OFF.
THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO HARVEY THAT IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE UNCOOPERATIVE, THAT I TOOK IT OFF.
!!

IT'S FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY.

EVERYONE'S SAFETY?

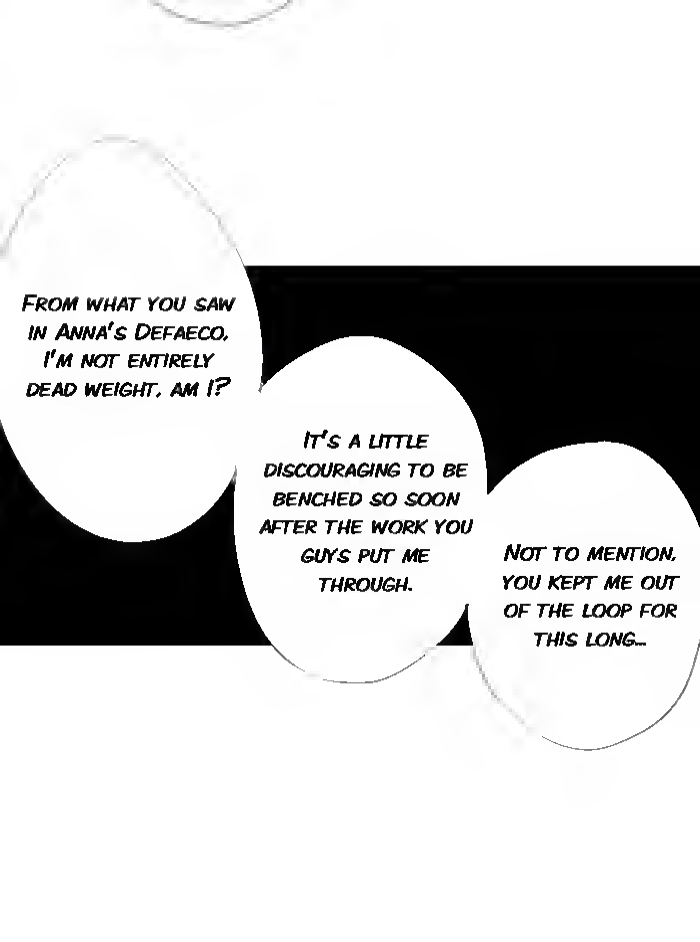


PARIS?

HEY...
COME ON NOW... IF IT'S SOMETHING DANGEROUS, I DON'T THINK YOU AND HARVEY SHOULD BE KEEPING IT A SECRET FROM ME.
THIS IS THE BEST WE CAN DO FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.

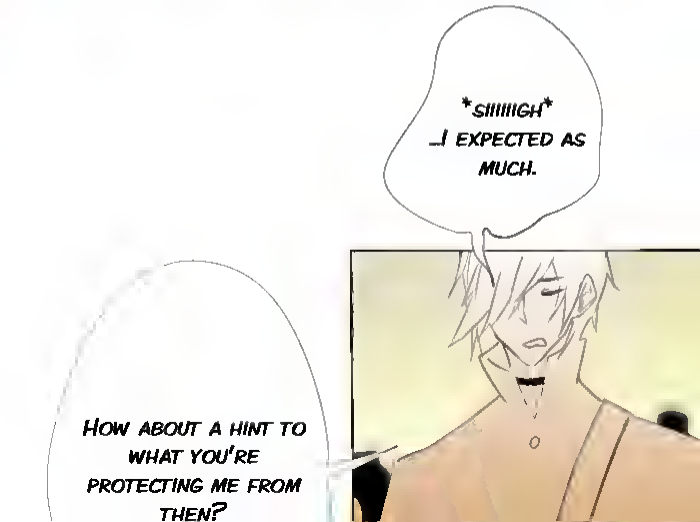
SO JUST SHUT UP AND BE PATIENT.
AH... ANOTHER VAGUE ANSWER. *SIGH*
BUT I CAN CONNECT SOME DOTS NOW.

From what you told me, I'm guessing you've been sticking around me for the same reason too.
Is it to protect me?


From what you saw in Anna's Defaeco, I'm not entirely dead weight, am I?
It's a little discouraging to be benched so soon after the work you guys put me through.
Not to mention, you kept me out of the loop for this long...

AREN'T WE A
"TEAM"?

—
ANYTHING?


SIIIIIGH
_I EXPECTED AS MUCH.
HOW ABOUT A HINT TO WHAT YOU'RE PROTECTING ME FROM THEN?

NO.

AH

HAH
HAH...

YOU'RE WRONG LEON.

IT'S THE OPPOSITE.

IF I'M RIGHT ABOUT THIS...
IT'S NOT YOU WHO I'VE BEEN PROTECTING.
IT'S EVERYONE I'M PROTECTING FROM YOU.